GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3421
ANSWERED ON:10.08.2015
Regional Air Connectivity
Boianapalli Shri Vinod Kumar;Hari Shri G.

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Governments has asked the State Governments to improve regional air connectivity by providing financial support to smaller carriers;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the response of the State Governments thereto and the other steps being taken to improve regional connectivity;

(c) whether the Government is considering to underwrite some seats in flights to remote areas and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the Government is likely to propose 1 per cent cess on fares to fund air connectivity in non-lucrative regional routes and if so, the details and the present status thereof?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION

(Dr Mahesh Sharma)

(a) to (d) - A meeting of the State Civil Aviation Ministers was held on 30.11.2014 in New Delhi, wherein State Governments were inter-alia
requested to reduce VAT on ATF and to provide facilities for aviation activities in their respective States in the form of development of road
connectivity to airports, exemption / reduction in the applicable State taxes, extension of services of State police and fire department etc to
reduce the cost of operations at the airports and underwriting of certain numbers of seats to provide viability for airline operations as part of
many options to facilitate remote and regional connectivity.These were also reiterated in the subsequent meetings held in the Ministry with
officials of State Governments.

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